



REMARKS

Claims 1-98 are pending and have been restricted under 35 U.S.C. § 121 into the following groups:

- Group I: Claims 1-33, drawn to isolated peptides, peptidomimetics comprising SEQ ID No:1 and a conjugate comprising a therapeutic agent linked to a homing molecule that selectively homes to tumor and binding to collagen; and
- Group II: Claims 34-77, drawn to a method of directing a moiety to tumor vasculature and a method of imaging tumor vasculature and treating cancer and reducing the number of tumor vessels in a subject comprising administering to the subject a conjugate linked to a homing molecule that selectively homes to tumor vasculature and binds to collagen.

Applicants respectfully request clarification as to the grouping of claims 78-98.

The Examiner requests that one of the groups of claims be elected for examination. Although the restriction requirement is traversed for the reasons set forth below, Applicants elect the claims of Group I, claims 1-33, for examination.

The Restriction Requirement is traversed with respect to the division of the claims of Group I from the claims of Group II. While the claims of Groups I and II are patentably distinct, it is submitted that a thorough search of the claims of either group will likely reveal art relevant to the examination of the claims of the other group. Thus, a search of the claims of Group I will, of necessity, reveal information relevant to the examination of the claims of Group II and, therefore, division of the claims into these groups would result in duplicative searches. Therefore, examination of the claims of Group I with the claims of Group II together should not be an undue burden on the Examiner.

The Examiner has additionally requested that a species election be made. Applicants elect "polypeptide" as the species of therapeutic agent. The claims readable on the elected species include claims 1-21 and 26-33.

Applicants elect the claims of Group I, claims 1-33, for examination. Applicants respectfully request that the Restriction Requirement be reconsidered and that the claims of Group I

be examined with the claims of Group II. Applicants further elect "polypeptide" as the species of therapeutic agent.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent if there are any questions.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 502624 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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